

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT 02/09021

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 G01N21/35

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	EP 0 899 556 A (GEN ELECTRIC) 3 March 1999 (1999-03-03) column 1, paragraph 1  column 2, paragraph 7 column 4, paragraph 12 -column 5, paragraph 13 column 8, paragraph 24 -column 9, paragraph 27; figure 1	1,8,9  2-4,7, 11,13-15
X A	WO 02 054048 A (CROONENBORGHES JOS ;VAN STEERTEGHEM LUC (BE); BOON PAUL (BE); BOREA) 11 July 2002 (2002-07-11) page 4, paragraph 2 -page 5, paragraph 4; figures 1,4	1,8,9  2-4,11, 12,15

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 May 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/05/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Stuebner, B

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PC 02/09021

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	WO 02 052243 A (BOREALIS TECH OY ; JACKSON ROBERT PATRICK (GB); EGGEN SVEIN (NO); E) 4 July 2002 (2002-07-04) page 4, line 10 - line 24  page 10, line 17 -page 11, line 22 page 13, line 35 -page 14, line 24; figures 1-3	1,8,9  2-4,11, 14,15
X A	US 4 852 028 A (AMPLER LEIF ET AL) 25 July 1989 (1989-07-25) column 3, line 65 -column 5, line 25	1,9 2,3,8,14
X A	US 4 742 228 A (BISCHOFF BRUNO) 3 May 1988 (1988-05-03) column 2, line 28 -column 3, line 30 column 6, line 58 -column 7, line 37	1,9 2,3,8,14
X A	US 5 459 318 A (CACHO MIGUEL A ET AL) 17 October 1995 (1995-10-17) column 2, line 33 -column 67  column 6, line 3 - line 52	1,9 2,3,8, 11,12,14

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

EP 02/09021

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0899556	A	03-03-1999	US 5974866 A	02-11-1999
			AU 733975 B2	31-05-2001
			AU 8186798 A	11-03-1999
			BR 9803269 A	03-11-1999
			CA 2245016 A1	28-02-1999
			DE 69809660 D1	09-01-2003
			EP 0899556 A2	03-03-1999
			JP 11153460 A	08-06-1999
			SG 81242 A1	19-06-2001
			US 6405579 B1	18-06-2002
WO 02054048	A	11-07-2002	WO 02054048 A1	11-07-2002
WO 02052243	A	04-07-2002	WO 02052243 A1	04-07-2002
US 4852028	A	25-07-1989	SE 448357 B	16-02-1987
			AT 52449 T	15-05-1990
			AU 1945183 A	04-04-1984
			DE 3381535 D1	13-06-1990
			DE 138810 T1	22-05-1986
			DK 238884 A	14-05-1984
			EP 0138810 A1	02-05-1985
			FI 844016 A ,B,	12-10-1984
			HU 38074 A2	28-04-1986
			NO 841919 A ,B,	14-05-1984
			SE 8205227 A	15-03-1984
			WO 8401123 A1	29-03-1984
US 4742228	A	03-05-1988	AT 44619 T	15-07-1989
			DE 3441856 A1	24-10-1985
			DE 3448134 C2	03-05-1989
			DE 3571503 D1	17-08-1989
			WO 8504957 A1	07-11-1985
			EP 0179108 A1	30-04-1986
			JP 61501943 T	04-09-1986
			SU 1503687 A3	23-08-1989
US 5459318	A	17-10-1995	CA 2104053 A1	01-03-1994